lid not match the spec claims were amended.

Atty. Docket No. 002187 USA C03/PDC/WF/DB PATENT APPLICATION

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Express Mail No. EL054550261US

David ALUMOT et al.

Rule 53(b) Continuation of U.S. Application No. 09/298,501

Filed: Concurrently herewith

OPTICAL INSPECTION APPARATUS FOR DEFECT DETECTION (as amended)

## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

Sir

Prior to initial examination on the merits and prior to calculation of the filing fee, please amend the above-identified application as follows.

## IN THE TITLE:

Please delete the present title and replace it with the following new title: -OPTICAL

INSPECTION APPARATUS FOR DEFECT DETECTION-.

## IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the specification as follows:

Page 2, please delete the fourth full paragraph, and replace it with the following new paragraph:

According to one aspect of the present invention, there is provided a method of inspecting the surface of an article for defects by: optically examining, in a first phase examination, the complete surface of the article and electrically outputting information indicating